

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please cancel claims 1-2, 5-8 and 10-13.**

**The allowed claims 3, 4 and 9 are also attached below.**

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously Presented). A method of determining the probable cause of sub-optimal performance in a computing system, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a dependency between a first and a second system resource performance characteristic in a computing system, wherein the step of determining a dependency includes the steps of:

(a1) applying a mathematical algorithm to data values for said first performance characteristic and said second performance characteristic of the computing system to derive said correlation value between said first and second characteristics;

(a2) providing said correlation value as an indication of the relative dependency between said second characteristic and said first characteristic;

(a3) setting said correlation value between "0" and "1" wherein the higher values between 0 and 1 indicate that said first and second performance characteristic are highly dependent on one another while the lower values indicate that said first and second performance characteristics have lesser influence on one another.

4. (Previously Presented). A system for analyzing a computing system comprising determination means arranged to determine a dependency between a first and a second system resource performance characteristic in a computing system, the determination means further comprising:

(a) data gathering means arranged to provide data values for said first performance characteristic and said second performance characteristic of the computing system;

(b) computational means arranged to apply a mathematical algorithm to derive a correlation value between said first and second characteristics; and

(c) providing said correlation value to indicate the relative dependency between said second characteristic and said first characteristic, where higher numerical values of said correlation value indicate a greater dependency between said first and second characteristics.

5. (Cancelled).
6. (Cancelled).
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented). A method of analyzing a computing system to determine problematic characteristics of the computing system so as to reduce the number of characteristics which require further analysis, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing data values for a first performance characteristic and for a second performance characteristic of said computing system; and

(b) applying a mathematical algorithm to derive a correlation value between said first and second performance characteristics, wherein said correlation value provides a numerical indication of the relative dependency between the second characteristic and the first characteristic said relative dependency increasing according to the higher value of said numerical indication.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).